GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2395
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2003
RECOMMENDATION BY WORKING GROUP ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has examined the recommendations made by working group on Petroleum and Natural Gas submitted last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations which have been incorporated in Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2395 BY SHI SUBODH MOHITE FOR REPLY ON 6TH MARCH 2003 REGARDING RECOMMENDATION BY WORKING GROUP C PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) & (c): The Working Group studied various aspects of the petroleum and natural gas sector in the context of liberalisation of the sector as well as its increasing exposure to international oil market. It made a number of recommendations which include strengthening of oil security through accelerated exploration programmes, acquisition of equity oil abroad, development of alternative sources of fuels, creation of strategic reserves of oil/product and product quality improvement for environmental protection. Accordingly, the following action plans have been approved by the Government under the Tenth Five Year Plan:

(i) Acceleration of exploration efforts especially in deep offshore and frontier areas.

(ii) Launching of Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) & Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) programmes.

(iii) Enhancing efforts for securing equity oil and gas abroad.

(iv) Creation of strategic storage facilities for crude oil.

(v) Development of alternate fuels including Coal Bed Methane, Motor Sprit-Ethanol Blend and Gas Hydrates.

(vi) Implementation of Product Quality Improvement Projects by Oil PSUs for meeting prescribed environmental standards.